

# THE ALMA RECORD.

VOL. XLII—NO. 23

ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 4, 1919

WHOLE NUMBER 2111

## HOME DESTROYED BY FIRE FRIDAY

House of Henry Blank Struck  
by Lightning and Burned  
to the Ground.

## NOTHING COULD BE SAVED

Family Was Sleeping in Nearby Tent  
and Was Unable to Save  
Household Goods.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Blank in Central Heights Sub-division in the southern part of the city, was totally destroyed last Friday evening, when it was struck by lightning, and burned to the ground.

The Blank family had retired for the night when the severe electrical storm came up, and were sleeping in a tent close to the house. All of the members of the family were aroused when the bolt of lightning struck the residence, but by the time that Mr. Blank reached the house, it was burning rapidly, and the smoke was so heavy that he was unable to enter the doors. Helplessly he and his family were forced to stand by and watch the savings of almost a lifetime, which had been invested in the small home, consumed by the blaze.

A fire alarm was turned in and the department responded, but the house was so far from the nearest hydrant that it was impossible to reach it with the hose or render any assistance in attempting to put out the fire, which by that time was beyond control.

Nothing was saved from the home, even the clothing of the Blanks being crumpled in the destroying flames, so that nothing was left to them, except the night clothes which they were wearing.

There was no insurance on the house or upon its contents, so that the loss to Mr. Blank is a big one. The members of the family were taken to the homes of nearby residents Friday night where they were cared for until their possessions could be moved. The loss was a terrible blow to Mrs. Blank, and Saturday morning it was necessary to call medical assistance for her.

Saturday the members of the Salvation Army circulated a petition around the city seeking aid for the suffering family, which had lost everything. It is understood that a tiny sum has been realized, which has been turned over to Mr. Blank.

## IN GAME AGAIN

Veteran Alma Publisher Has Taken  
Over Paper in Mt. Pleasant.

C. E. Brown has decided to enter the newspaper business again and has changed a business deal whereby he has taken over the Mt. Pleasant Courier, one of the live publications in the Iosbela county seat.

The business terms of the enterprise in which the veteran Alma publisher has embarked, will be known as C. E. Brown & Company. Mr. Brown, who for thirty-two years was the proprietor of the Alma Record, will be the business manager of the new concern and H. A. Miller, the veteran publisher of the Courier, will take the editorialship of the publication.

As a result of this deal Mr. Brown will move to Mt. Pleasant, where he will make his future home, and this city will lose one of the most active boosters that it has ever had. For eight years Mr. Brown has been president of the Alma Board of Trade, and during this time has had much to do with the growth of Alma, as he was ever too busy to devote his time to the best interests of the city no matter what they might be.

It will be with a true feeling of regret that the business interests of the city see Mr. Brown leave Alma, as the business men of the city know how well he has labored in the interests of the city.

Mr. Pleasant may count himself lucky to secure an able and worth while a citizen as Mr. Brown, with whom he has been one of the best of friends of Alma friends.

## SERIES OFF

Chances of Playing Saginaw League  
Are Regarded as Slim.

The first of the week it was regarded as a certainty that the Saginaw Mustangs might have been secured to play the Republics in a three game series to start next Thursday, but since that time the management of the Aces has demanded a guarantee for the game to be played in Alma, which the Republic managers were unable to put up, feeling that a fifty-fifty split of the gate money should be enough.

While the series is not definitely off, as a result of the action of the Saginaw management, it is regarded now as improbable that the series will be played. As far as the Republics are concerned they stand ready to meet the Saginaw team on a fifty-fifty split, and unless the Aces drop the demand for a guarantee there will be no series.

If the series should be arranged, it is planned to have the first game played in Alma Thursday afternoon, with the second in Alma Saturday. The third game would be played in Saginaw Sunday, September 14.

Advertise your wants in The Record.

## WARRANT OUT

Alma Firm is Charged with Selling  
at Short Weight.

Following a visit to this city yesterday of F. F. Pales, inspector for the Michigan Pure Food and Drug Department, a warrant was sworn out by Fred Slater of Alma, against the firm of Fortino Brothers, charging them with selling and offering for sale potatoes at less weight than the amount required.

It was understood this morning that the members of the firm would be brought into justice court today, before William H. Rogers, justice of the peace, when they will have the opportunity of explaining the charges that have been lodged against them by Mr. Slater.

It is the claim of Mr. Slater that he recently purchased some new potatoes from Fortino Brothers, and that on weighing them found that he had been given a short weight. He also states that he then purchased more potatoes and had witnesses watch the weighing of them and they were also short in weight. He stated this morning that it was not the small loss, which he had suffered which prompted him to lodge the complaint, but the fact that he believed that the cost of living was high enough, without anyone being given short weight in their purchases.

## POPULAR ALMA COUPLE MARRIED TUESDAY

Miss Marie Doane and Donald B.  
Smith. Quietly Married by  
Rev. W. H. Mason.

Miss Marie Doane was united in marriage last Thursday evening at the home of her father, Erasmus H. Doane, State street, to Mr. Donald Brainerd Smith, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ezra L. Smith of this city, the ceremony being performed by Rev. William H. Mason, pastor of the Warren Avenue Presbyterian church of Saginaw.

Mrs. Donald Smith has been an Alma resident for about twelve years and is a graduate of Alma college. She has been for some time one of the most popular ladies of Alma's younger set.

Mr. Smith is a graduate of the local high school and also of Alma college, having finished his college course this last June, after having returned from the army, where for months he was in the aviation service. He is one of Alma's best known young men and has a large circle of friends in this city. At the present time he is employed in the office of the Republic Motor Truck company.

Immediately following the wedding ceremony Thursday evening Mr. and Mrs. Smith left for an automobile tour of the state, after which they will be at home to their friends in this city.

## MONEY SAVERS

Republic Trucks Prove Their Utility  
for Farm Work.

Two years ago, the Moreshead brothers, who own a 25,000-acre farm near Sacramento, Cal., were using forty-five wagons with four-mule teams and forty-five drivers to haul wheat from their harvesters to the bins on the Sacramento river levee, where grain was loaded by gravity onto barges.

Facing a troublesome fall season, they bought seven 3-ton trucks and thereby reduced their force by more than forty, for the teamster crew had required an additional cost, and the mules, three stable boys, teamsters had been getting \$2 a day and board, and it was difficult to keep the force together. The seven trucks, drivers were paid \$5 a day and board and remained throughout the season.

General foreman C. M. Owen had not checked up the difference in cost of transportation when he was interviewed, but was satisfied to stay with the trucks.

"I don't know how we would have gotten through the season if it had been necessary to hire forty-five teamsters," he said. "Besides I find that while the wagons carried 3 tons at a load and made 2 m. p. h., the trucks carried 5 tons at a load and made 12 m. p. h. The wagons made from two to three trips daily, while the trucks made seven."

These trucks have been equipped with special bodies of lumber and grooved material for bulk wheat. They are loaded from a 5-ton bin on the side of the thrasher in the field in three minutes, and the load is discharged even more quickly at the other end. The truck is driven onto a wooden grating of 2x12 in. planks placed on edge over the bumper with the front wheels on an incline of 30 deg. and the rear wheels resting over the top of the bumper. The end-rails at the lower edge of the truck bed then lie open and the wheat runs out. (The Commercial Vehicle).

## TAKES AGENCY

The Leon Stinchcomb insurance agency has been transferred to Stephen L. Bennett, who assumes the former patrons of Mr. Stinchcomb that they will receive every consideration he is able to give them. Mr. Bennett has been in the insurance business in Alma for the past few years, and during that time the business has been growing by leaps and bounds.

## ALMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPEN

Outlook for Year is Reported to  
Be Exceptionally Bright  
at Present.

## NEW MARK IN ATTENDANCE

Largest Number of Students on Hand  
for Opening in History of  
Local Schools.

The Alma public schools opened Tuesday with the largest attendance that has ever been present on the opening day of the schools and it is felt certain that within the coming two weeks that this enrollment will be greatly increased, as it is certain that there are still a large number of young people, who will enter school a little late.

The most marked increase in attendance is in the high school which shows an increase over this time last year of at least a half hundred pupils, there being well over four hundred enrolled at the present time. At the end of the first day of the session there were four hundred and six enrolled. In past years the high school has shown a very marked increase during the school year, and there is every reason to believe that the attendance in the high school will grow at least as rapidly this year as in past years, if not more rapidly.

The Lincoln school at the end of the first day and a half showed an attendance of 401 pupils, this being about the normal number. A comparison with the attendance of the first days of last year is impossible at the Lincoln and the Washington schools because of the fact that the new Republic school has taken many pupils from the former two, since a year ago. The Washington school with an attendance of 349 at the end of the first day and a half of the session also has about a normal attendance.

The new Republic school is well crowded, and it is certain that the temporary building on the property will be called into use for a time at least. There is an attendance of 400 pupils in that building.

The temporary school, Hillcrest, in the southern part of the city, also shows a good attendance, there being 107 pupils there. These are only youngsters in the first few grades, as this building is far too small to take care of more than the lower primary grades.

The work in the schools by both instructors and pupils has started off in such a way as to lead to the belief that some excellent work will be accomplished this year. The teachers are showing a deep interest in their work, which is easily apparent, and is bound to leave a marked effect with the students by better achievement in the various courses of study that they are pursuing.

## HOW SCHOOL BANK WORKS

Savings System in Eastern Institution  
Results in \$50,000 Deposits.

Twelve years ago a New England school principal called a meeting of the mothers and fathers in his district, and proposed that they help their youngsters and himself start a school savings bank. It is difficult now to picture such an invention, they must have had money, and he showed that parents had their own money in their own hands. He told them that the bank was to be part of school training, teaching thrift, industry, prudence and economy.

Today this school savings bank, in the Henry Horton school, District 1, Alma, has deposits of more than \$50,000. The average weekly deposit from the bank is \$100. The bank is open for six days a week, the hours of the bank are 8:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. and the interest is 3 per cent.

Operation of this bank is simple. Each child has a small personal passbook. Every Monday morning during the first half-hour of school, the principal of the school stands at the front of the school and each child is provided with a passbook in which his deposits are entered by the teller.

Deposits are made in the school's bank, in the presence of the teacher and the teller, who enters them in his roll book. The teacher and teller then carry all deposits and place them in an envelope, which the teller delivers to the school secretary, who compares roll book and envelope, verifying the items. The envelopes are then forwarded to the Hartford Society for Savings, where the accounts of the school are placed.

At interest periods, December, March and June, the roll books are examined by the secretary, and a personal account is opened for the Society for Savings for each pupil who has \$2 in the school bank. After this, at those periods, all amounts of \$1 or more, standing in his credit on a pupil's school deposit book, are added to his personal account. If any pupil wishes to withdraw his money a written statement from the parent or the parent's personal application is required.

Nazimova in "The Red Lantern,"  
Idolhour Tues., Wed., Thurs.—adv.

## Republics Win Two

Sunday Game

REPUBLICS	AB	H	O	A
Hunter, m	1	1	1	0
Tooley, 1st	3	1	4	0
Chouinard, ss	1	1	2	2
Devost, c	3	3	12	3
Baum, lf	4	1	0	1
Oakes, 2nd	2	1	5	1
Sherlow, rf	4	1	2	0
Smith, 3rd	2	0	1	2
Freeman, p	4	1	0	1

CHEVROLET

Gordon, 3rd	4	0	1	2
Murphy, ss	3	2	2	3
Clardy, 2nd	4	0	0	2
French, rf	3	2	0	0
Greene, 1st	3	0	11	0
Nichols, c	3	0	6	2
Currie, lf	3	0	1	0
Cayler, m	3	0	3	0
Wise, p	3	0	2	0

Innings 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 R

Chevrolet 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1

Republic 1 0 0 0 1 1 2 2 8 7

Three-base hit—Devost. Two-base hit—Hunter. Sacrifice hits—Oakes 2.

Tooley, Hunter, Struckout by Freeman 12, by Wise 5. Bases on balls—Off Wise 4. Hit by pitcher—Wise 2 (Smith and Hunter). Wild pitch—Wise.

LABOR DAY GAME

REPUBLICS	AB	H	O	A
Hunter, m	3	2	0	0
Tooley, 1st	4	0	2	2
Chouinard, ss	4	1	4	2
Baum, lf	3	1	1	0
Oakes, 2nd	4	0	2	1
Freeman, rf	3	0	0	1
Smith, c	4	1	1	1
Omstead, 1st	3	0	5	0
Hagerman, p	3	2	0	3

CHEVROLET

Gordon, 3rd	3	0	0	1
Currie, lf	4	0	3	0
Clardy, 2nd	4	1	2	1
French, rf	4	1	1	0
Sherlow, c	3	0	6	0
Murphy, ss	3	1	0	2
Greene, 1st	3	1	10	0
Cayler, m	3	0	2	0
Campbell, p	3	0	0	4

Innings 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 R

Chevrolet 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

Republic 0 0 1 2 0 0 0 0 0 3

Runs—Hagerman, Chouinard, Baum, Errors—Greene, Tooley, Chouinard. Three-base hit—Chouinard. Two-base hits—Hagerman, Hunter, Sacrifice hit—Freeman. Hit by pitcher—By Hagerman 1 (Gordon). Struckout—By Hagerman 13, by Campbell 4. Bases on balls—Off Campbell 2.

## GLEN CRISP IS NOW THE OFFICE MANAGER

Head of Republic Accounting  
Department Promoted to  
Important Position.

Glen Crisp, for the past few years head of the accounting department of the Republic Motor Truck Company, Inc., has been given a well deserved promotion, and has succeeded Edwin A. Gledhill as office manager of the big Alma concern.

During the time that he has been connected with the Republic as head of the accounting department Mr. Crisp has continuously filled this position with a display of ability, which could do nothing else than arouse him for the promotion which has come to him as a reward for his capabilities which he has shown.

Before going to the Republic company Mr. Crisp was associated with the Alma public schools, having been in charge of the commercial department, and much of the football and track teams. At this time Mr. Crisp was also showing some marked ability, which caused the officials of the company to turn to him, when a chief accountant was needed for that department.

## POLICE REPORT

Report for August Shows Biggest  
Amount in Fines in Years.

The police report for the month of August, submitted by the city commission Tuesday evening, shows the biggest amount in fines reported in the city since Gratiot county went into the city eleven years ago, and it also shows what is believed to be the largest number of arrests in a single month since that time.

During the month there were sixteen arrests made, twelve of which were justice court cases. Of these two were for drunkenness and ten were for violation of the automobile laws. Three were arrested for larceny under the state laws and one was arrested for larceny county officials.

Of the twelve justice court cases, fines were turned into the general fund of the city amounting to \$72.15, eleven being fined out of the twelve. The twelfth was let go after a certain lecture.

Of the amount turned in in fines \$22.50 was for the two cases of drunkenness. The largest fine for violation of the automobile law was \$5.00 and the smallest \$1.00.

The report also carries the names of seven children who violated the curfew ordinance during the month.

## REPUBLIC WIN ENTIRE SERIES

Chevrolet Nine, Flint City  
Champs, Lost Both Games  
to the Alma Team.

## LOCAL HURLING SUPERIOR

Freeman and Hagerman Allowed  
Visitors Just Four Hits in Each  
of the Games.

The Republics made a clean sweep of the two-game series with the Chevrolet Motor company team, Flint city champions, Sunday and Monday, taking the opening game by a score of 7 to 1, and winning the Holiday card by the shutout route, the Truck-makers counting three times in this battle.

Freeman was in the box against the Chevrolet nine, city champs of Flint, in the Sunday contest, and had the visitors on the hip except for the first inning, when two of the Vehicle City team's four hits were bunched for the single marker that was shoved over by them. "Buck" was working in rare style, and caused twelve of the visitors to whiff on his offerings.

Wise hurled a strong game in the opening innings, but was unable to stand the pace and in the late sessions of the game the Republics clouded him hard, and mixed the hits with bases on balls to good advantage.

Alma tied the count in her half of the first. Hunter was hit, Tooley sacrificed and Hunter came home on Devost's single. In the fifth the Republics took the lead when Hunter doubled with one down. He went to third on Tooley's infield out and slid on a wild pitch by Wise.

In the sixth the third run came without a hit. Devost walked, and went clear to third on Baum's infield out. Oakes hit to center field was far enough out to allow Devost to cash.

In the seventh Smith walked, Freeman singled, Hunter sacrificed the runners along. Both scored on Tooley's hot single base knock through short. Tooley was nailed stealing and Chouinard grounded out.

In the eighth the final two runs counted. Devost opened the session with a triple to right. Baum fled out. Oakes was safe at first on an infield hit, which scored Devost. Sherlow hit for two sacks, scoring Oakes.

Monday Hagerman was sent to the mound and was in his usual good form, and naturally returned his fourth straight victory. The visitors were able to touch Hagerman for just four safe blows, as in the Sunday game, and struckout 13 of the visitors. During the nine turns at bat not one of the Chevrolet players was able to get past second.

The Republics scored the first run in the third with two down. Hagerman loosed out a double to right, and scored on Hunter's long single. The inning ended when Tooley died out to left.

In the fourth the other two runs were added. Chouinard was safe on an error. Baum singled to right. Oakes fled out. Freeman's long fly to the outfield let Chouinard chase a run over the plate, Baum going to third. South slugged to center scoring Baum.

## MACHINERY PURCHASED

Bought for Delivery in Sixty Days  
for the New Wheel Company.

It was announced Tuesday that the machinery for the plant of the North-west Wheel company, Alma's new mill, which corporation had been purchased, for delivery in sixty days, which indicates that the work on the plant of the company will be rushed to completion and that the work is let.

It is expected that the contract for the building will be let tomorrow, and that the actual work on the building will start as soon thereafter as machinery can be put upon the ground and the necessary laborers secured.

It is expected that the contract for the building will be let tomorrow, and that the actual work on the building will start as soon thereafter as machinery can be put upon the ground and the necessary laborers secured.

## HUMPER TROOPS

A trip through Gratiot county reveals the fact that the farmers have produced bumper crops this season. Wheat and other grains have yielded exceptionally well and the corn crop is the best in years. Many of the farmers have their own cut, and others are pushing the harvest as rapidly as possible. The bean harvest is well under way and the yield on the whole will be good.

There is no better farming section than right here in Gratiot county, and this year's yield of all kinds of crops is abundant proof of that fact.

Carl Titus arrived home Sunday, having received his discharge from the service two days previous. Titus was in some of the major operations during the latter days of the war, particularly those at St. Mihiel and the Argonne drives. His division was in the Argonne drive for twenty-seven successive days, almost day and night. Only forty-three of his company of 270 men returned from the lines. He was with the army of occupation in Germany for eight months. Mr. Titus will leave within a few days for Cheboygan, where he will teach in the high school next year.

## TOURING COUNTRY

Truck Touring Country Was in This  
City on Saturday.

There rolled into the city Saturday a motor truck which attracted wide attention because of its remarkable history.

This truck is one of the oldest in existence today, and its chief point of interest for the motorist is that it is one of the first trucks ever equipped with big pneumatic tires. These big truck pneumatics promise to revolutionize motor truck transportation, so when the United States Tire company began an inquiry of a few months ago into the history of the development of this type of tire they found not only that they were the first company that ever manufactured these big tires and had gone farthest in perfecting them, but also that every one of the three trucks which were equipped with the first of these tires ever made was still in existence and doing full service.

The United States Tire company has got possession of these trucks and they are now touring the country, to give motor truck owners visible proof that motor trucks that run on pneumatic tires live a long time. The truck which visited this city Saturday was one of these three and its antiquated lines attracted immediate attention.

## GRATIOT VOTED FOR GOOD ROADS

Lightest Vote in Years Was at  
Polls Tuesday But Measure  
Carried Easily.

Gratiot county carried the county good roads proposition at Tuesday's special election by a big majority, in spite of the fact that one of the smallest votes in years turned out to the polls. As near as could be ascertained this morning the majority will be close to one thousand votes.

There was a surprising lack of interest in every part of the county in regard to the proposition, as only a few over 1,400 voters went to the polls Tuesday to have their say in regard to the matter.

Of this number, as near as could be told this morning, 1194 voted in favor of the measure and only 252 were against it. In some of the precincts of the county, it is believed that the vote result is not exactly correct, but the total majority is such that the corrected vote would probably just swell the total in favor of the county system.

One of the leading features of the election was in the first precinct of the second ward of Alma, which is said to have cast a unanimous vote in favor of good roads. The city returned a majority of about 250 in favor of the proposition. The entire vote of Alma was far less than 400. Iosbela county also voted on the good roads question Tuesday, and in that county it was carried by a vote of about 5 to 1.

## PROSPECTS GOOD

Outlook for High School Football  
Team Best in Two or Three Years.

There seems to be every probability that the local high school will be represented this year on the gridiron by a light but fast football team that will win a majority of its games at least eight better winners of former seasons will be out for the eleven in addition to a host of new men.

The old man who will be out for the team again this year are Captain Earl Pennington and Bishop, tackle; Fred and H. Sartor, ends; Stubbins and Church, tackles; Gross, center; and Murphy, quarter. Seven of these men were on last year's team, while Sartor was a member of the team two years ago.

The seven men from last year's team have had the advantage of high grade coaching, Harry Heiser, former Alma college mentor, having handled last year's team for about half of the season, so that these men know the finer points of the game to some extent at least, and should be capable performers this year.

A large number of new men will be on the squad, two of whom are very likely looking men, these being Nelson, a two hundred and ten pound youth and Marshall. The latter was out for the team last year, but left the squad early in the year. Like Nelson he is here and will be a welcome addition to the string of candidates.

A hard schedule is being arranged for the footballers, which, however, is not yet ready. Games with Saginaw East Side high and Arthur Hill high are included in the schedule, and it is expected that the usual games with Owosso, Mt. Pleasant and Ithaca will be scheduled in addition to some of the other stronger high schools of this section.

## OPENS BOWLING ALLEYS

The bowling alleys in the Luehni pool room and bowling alley have been completed and were opened to the public the latter part of last week, giving the first high grade alley that the bowlers of the city have enjoyed. The alleys are on the second floor, and are three in number.

The Record can do your Job  
Printing—call or telephone—adv.

## DROWNED IN CRYSTAL LAKE

Charles G. Hayward Lost Life  
Saturday When Canoe Was  
Overturned.

## EMMONS HAD CLOSE CALL

High School Graduate Attempted to  
Save Companion and Nearly  
Lost Life.

Charles G. Hayward, well known employee of the Republic Motor Truck Company Inc., and former high school athlete, was drowned Saturday afternoon about 4:00 o'clock at Crystal Lake and his companion, Harold Emons of this city, very narrowly escaped the same fate, while attempting to save Hayward.

Details of the accident are lacking as Harold Emons, terribly shocked by the death of his companion and his own fortunate escape from drowning, has been prostrated for several days and is still unable to dwell upon the tragedy.

Hayward and Emons, who were just bringing to an end a pleasant two week's vacation at Crystal had started out for a canoe ride just a few minutes prior to the accident. There was a heavy wind blowing and the waves were running rather high, but neither minded that as both had had considerable experience in the handling of a canoe. When they reached a point about two hundred feet out from the end of the wharf, the canoe in some manner overturned, throwing both young men into the water.

Hayward was evidently seized with cramps, and was unable to help himself, although the water was only six feet in depth. Emons did his best to aid his companion, and continued to do so until exhausted.

Hayward had lived in Alma for some time, having come here from Breckenridge to attend high school where he proved to be considerable of an athlete, having won letters in baseball, football and track. He graduated in 1918, following which he accepted a position with the Republic Motor Truck Company Inc. of this city.